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## FUNDS FOR OLYMPIC SECURITY CLEAR SENATE

***Over \$30 million in Bennett language approved for Utah security, drug and cybercrime fight***

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - The U.S. Senate last night unanimously approved legislation including over \$12 million for increased security at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games which Sen. Bob Bennett, author of the funding request, says is essential to ensure the safety of the athletes and spectators at the sporting event.

"This week's horrific attacks in New York and Washington have irrevocably changed the global landscape and only reinforce the need for adequate security at the Olympic Games," Sen. Bennett said. "Not only are the funds in this bill essential, we may find they are not adequate and decide to seek additional funding. Given the atmosphere in the Congress in the shadow of Tuesday's violence, I would anticipate the support of my colleagues to fund our safety needs."

Bennett noted that securing Olympic venues in mountainous areas requires a substantial increase in personnel. And unlike the Summer Games in Atlanta, where military troops provided a significant portion of the force for venue security, recent legislation requires the Utah venues be secured primarily through the use of local and federal law enforcement personnel. Of the 3,500 law enforcement officials in the state, approximately 2,500 will be involved in the Games.

The Utah Olympic Public Safety Command will receive \$12.7 million for this effort and in turn reimburse the appropriate agencies. The funds will help with overtime, housing and other expenses incurred with involvement of the Utah law enforcement officials, many of whom will be relocated from their homes for the duration of the Games.

Following are other Utah projects funded through Bennett's work on the Commerce, Justice, and State Appropriations Bill for the Fiscal Year 2002:

- \$5 million for Utah Communications Network (UCAN)**

The Congress approved a Bennett request of \$5 million for the UCAN which will allow for an upgrade of security and communications infrastructure and assist with the law enforcement needs amplified by the Olympics. Bennett noted this new system will support two-way communications between law enforcement personnel within a single agency or between many agencies. It will allow all SLOC security and public safety entities to cross-communicate during the games.
- \$10 Million for the Department of Justice to aid in Copyright Enforcement, Cybercrime and Intellectual Property Enforcement**

Utah's high-tech industry has suffered losses as a result of intellectual property theft, from both Internet piracy and shrink wrap sales. Previously, the justice department was unable to search out and prosecute pirates. In fact, its lack of funding has limited the number of people prosecuted under the No Electronic Theft (NET) Act since its passing in 1997 to six. The funding approved today will allow the Department of Justice to further develop its ability to seek out and prosecute cybercrime and protect Utah interests.
- \$1.5 million for the Central Utah Methamphetamine Program**

Over the last few years, the methamphetamine problem in the state of Utah has grown at an alarming rate. The highly addictive "meth" has been a concern for some time, as the number of labs seized annually has jumped from 61 in 1996 to 266 in 2000. The additional funding will be used to purchase cameras, video monitors, surveillance vans, and other equipment which can be used to locate meth labs and prosecute those who would meddle with the drug. "Hopefully, with the steps taken over the last few years," Bennett added, "Utah law enforcement officials will continue to make permanent progress with this battle."
- \$1 million for Cache Valley Multi-Jurisdictional 800-Megahertz Law Enforcement Project**

This project will increase the efficiency of communication between various public safety organizations in Cache Valley and northern Utah as a whole. The standardized communications system will allow officers to coordinate with other agencies in the area, share public safety resources, and respond in a multi-jurisdictional approach when needed.

I. **\$1.1 million for the Patent and Trademark (PTO) Office**

PTO is responsible for the administration of our nation's patent and trademark laws. As products of intellectual creativity continue to stream into our society, Senator Bennett has noted that it has become especially important to fund the agency that protects these products. Recent years have shown a dramatic increase in patent and trademark activity and it is the hope of legislators that this budget increase will adequately meet this growth.

• **\$3 million for Parents Anonymous**

In 1970, one courageous woman founded an organization to secure a safe environment for her children. Since then, Parents Anonymous has become the nation's premiere family strengthening program, protecting many thousands of children from the horrors of child abuse. The funding will further their efforts.

The CJS bill now proceeds to a House-Senate conference where differences between the bill will be reconciled.

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